

Washington, DC -- U.S. Representative Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) voted again yesterday for legislation to shield more than 42,000 individuals in the 24th Congressional District from increased taxes through the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) this year.

“Yesterday, I voted to prevent a tax increase for 42,000 taxpayers in our congressional district – middle-class families already struggling with financial uncertainty,” **Arcuri said**. “I’ve fought time and again to protect local families and small business owners, who would otherwise be hit with the Alternative Minimum Tax. Many people don’t know what the AMT is because we have successfully stopped it time and again, and I will continue to fight for tax relief for local families.”

The Alternative Minimum Tax Relief Act of 2008 (H.R. 7005), passed by the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday, would save an estimated 25 million Americans from a tax increase. It also increases the AMT exemption amount to \$69,950 for joint filers and \$46,200 for individuals. In the 24th district, this legislation would ensure that more than 42,000 people are protected from having to pay higher taxes under the AMT, including approximately 6,051 individuals who make less than \$75,000 a year and have never had to pay the AMT before.

Since taking office, Arcuri has voted repeatedly to protect taxpayers in the 24th Congressional District from having to pay the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT).

The AMT was originally developed to make sure multi-millionaires were paying their fair share of taxes and was never designed to hit middle-class families. Because the threshold for the AMT has never been adjusted for inflation, without Congressional action this tax would trap millions of middle-class families with an unnecessary tax increase.

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